

Miss U. S.,
May 16th '39

Sir,

Your letters of the 7th & 8th instant
were received yesterday and to day.

George Hawley's bill, for the bill, had
been already paid, on your order, though
without notice from you. If your request
for rags is attended to. ~~Two~~ Two
pairs of Dinner and of Half-dinner dies
are also ordered, and will be forwarded
as soon as possible. It is important
that an acknowledgment of the receipt
of dies should never be neglected. If
lost or stolen, they might be used
for dangerous purposes, and the fact
should be promptly known, that means
may be taken to prevent the mischief.
I make this remark because you have
not acknowledged the receipt of the
following dies sent to you, viz:

2 per Dinner dies sent Jan. 30, 1839.

2 " Half dinner " " " "

2 " Dinner " " March 18, "

2 " Half dinner " " 28, "

I cannot suppose that two ass-
say balances can be necessary for
your Assayer, if he had one that
could be depended upon. Some de-
fect in the knife-edge is a common
occurrence, and easily removed by
a good Mechanic. I am sure that
Mr. Tyler will adjust the balance
if you request him. It would
take a long time to make you a
new one, and Mr. Santoro is fully
occupied, - one of his tasks being
the adjustment of the large weights
for your Mint, which, after our
waiting so long for Mr. Hassler,
I have caused to be brought here.

The claims of your Contractors
are very vexatious. When I came
to examine the plans for your Mint,
I found several defects requiring to
be corrected, but nearly all the
charges suggested arose from my
desire to furnish, in the building,
accommodations for the Superinten-
dent, and the Coiner & Moulder. This
object I thought of great importance,
and I still think so. With these

Officers residing in the building, the
Mint is more safe, and the busi-
ness more conveniently and therefore
more effectually attended to. Besides,
the salaries are low for so expen-
sive a place as New Orleans, and
I felt it to be desirable that these
officers should be relieved from the
heavy item of rent. I perhaps
do not understand what you mean
by the original design, when you
speak of being "much excited at
finding the arrangements different" from
it. The principal variation is one
which has given you a home. It
ought to be distinctly understood,
moreover, that the alterations pro-
posed and approved was decidedly
calculated to make the building
less costly. It was proposed ^{for example} to
dispense with all the groins arches
in your wing of the building; yet
I see entire groin arches charged
for. I see also an extra charge
for substituting a wooden stairway
for one of stone. It is impossible
for me, however, to form any ac-

curate judgment of this business,
which moreover was never committed
to my charge; - Gen. Gordon being
the responsible agent. It is proba-
ble, ~~that~~ however, that the Secretary of
the Treasury may apply to me in
consequence of your communication to
him, and I will then present such
views on the matter as my imperfect
information may furnish to me.

R. M. P.

D

To/
David Bradford Esq.
Sup. Br. Court,
New Haven.